

THE TELEGRAPH.

ASHTABULA, OHIO.

Friday Morning, Feb. 2nd, 1877.

THE DISASTER!

What has Been Said and Done at the Coroner's Inquest.

Friday Jan. 26.

At the inquest to-day, Dr. C. Case was the first witness summoned. He went to the wreck immediately on hearing of the accident, and he carried the entire night in caring for the wounded. He did not see any one who was burned when he reached the wreck. This was about 8:30 o'clock. One of the passengers told him there were between two and three hundred persons on the train.

James Doran was also sworn. He is employed as track master by the Lake Shore road at Ashtabula, and was so employed when the bridge was built across Ashtabula creek. He says that a double track was laid across the bridge at or about the time it was built, but that one of them was used for ordinary travel, until the whole road was double tracked, which was about four or five years ago. He has never found the rails on the bridge much out of line. He examined the track east of the bridge the morning after the accident and found no evidence of the train having left the track. He could have discovered it easily if it had done so. He has never known a car to run off the track on the bridge. There are guard rails the whole length of the bridge.

James K. Stebbins was next sworn: He is jeweler at Ashtabula, and was at the bridge about forty minutes after hearing the alarm. When he first saw the wreck the frames of cars were standing; he helped some of the wounded up the hill and then went to the cars; he heard cries for help from different parts of the wreck at the time, and wondered why water was not being thrown; he got some buckets and men to use them, and then went in search of the steamer and found it lying idle, and asked why they were not throwing water. He told them that people were burning alive and could only be saved by water. They told him that they could not act without orders from their Chief. He said: "Where is he?" "We'll have water down there, or we'll hang him." He was answered that they did not know where he was. Being exhausted and discouraged he left the wreck and went to care for the wounded.

Tuesday Jan. 30.

Mr. Job, Abbott, a civil engineer, of Canton, was examined, and testified that he is Vice President of the Canton Bridge Company, and has known of several bridges being built in wrong and cast iron on the Howe truss plan. He has examined the wrecked bridge. In his calculations, he assumed the dead load of the bridge to be 2,570 pounds per lineal foot. He made the tension members had ample section, and, in fact, were considerably heavier than necessary for safety, and that the compression members were deficient in section. Considering the position in which the train and bridge fell, and from his investigations, his theory of the disaster is that the bridge commenced to give away by the buckling of the "I" beams forming the main brace of the second or third panel from the west end in the south truss. He is of the opinion that the bridge had become gradually weakened by use, the form of construction being such that many of the compression members were strained over their safe working capacity. He thinks that an iron bridge should not deteriorate by use, provided it be not strained above a safe working capacity. He thinks that the development of the locomotive might have caused the destruction of the bridge, but does not think that such a thing would have occurred. Copies of the testimony of Messrs. Amasa Stone and the late Charles Collins were introduced and will be used as evidence.

Wednesday, Jan. 31.

At the inquest to-day Albert Howland was called; he found evidence that the "I" beams of the top chord in the south truss were bent toward the south at a point about twenty feet from the west end of the truss. This evidence was the curved outline of the point on the angle block where the "I" beams rested. The wooden floor system was such that it could not be erected upon to give lateral support to the bridge, inasmuch as the elasticity of wood differs very much from that of iron, and the force might bend the wood a great deal, so that the iron would receive nearly all the strain. The iron portion of the bridge should have been self-sustaining, both laterally and vertically, except as rested upon the abutments. Mr. Howland considers the whole system of lateral bracing a very defective point in the bridge. In his opinion it was a serious defect in the structure. That the compression members depended to a great extent, upon their friction for retaining their proper position. The jury adjourned until Saturday.

Mr. Abbott, of the Canton Bridge Company, said in private conversation to-day, that the system of lateral bracing employed was not strong enough to dam the bridge, in his estimation.

A blue silk handkerchief, marked "Mrs. Carrie Griswold, Elmira, N. Y.," was returned to the coroner to-day in an anonymous letter.

The Speech of Mr. Garfield.

Of course, it was not to be expected that the able representative from this district, with his feet firmly braced upon constitutional ground, should suffer a measure fraught with such grave consequences as this compromise measure, to wit: raising his voice against it. His utterances were worthy of the mature and ripened mind of a statesman, and it will be well if his utterances do not prove themselves to be a prophecy, before the passage of another decade of our national history. If, as is broadly asserted, it is in the interests of peace that this cowardly compromise has been made, the law and practice of a century in the most vital important points of our national policy are ignored, and the constitution is made a mockery and a farce. If the express letter of the constitution and law—the practice of the fathers and all precedents from the foundation of the government go for nothing now, what say we to another to the

and train his rifle bands, and threaten to deluge the land with blood, and there will be nothing to do but to compromise every venerable and sacred consideration that has held us in the past and promised safety in the future, in the interests of peace. We give but an abstract of the speech of Mr. Garfield, but sufficient to show what some of the best points made were:

This first objection was against the gradual control which Congress has assumed of the Presidential election. The method of electing a President had been the first to meet the constitutional Convention. There were many times as much space devoted to it in the record of the convention debates as to all other subjects. The great question which arose at once was whether the Chief Executive should be appointed by Congress. He argued that the one great purpose held in view by the framers of the Constitution was to keep as far as possible the selection of the Executive from any interference by the National Legislature. This was why they prohibited members of Congress from being Electors. They guarded the Constitution that Congress could not interfere with the Electoral College, and beyond fixing the time of the meeting of the Electoral College, and the casting of the Electoral vote, Congress had no control over the Electors, who are absolute and supreme as any despot, in the work assigned them. When the College has performed its work, it is final, and there is no power of review. The election is over on the day fixed for casting the vote. The College dissolves when its vote has been cast, and no power can reach it. Its record is made up and must be declared as it was made. After tracing the working of the Electoral College through the various steps provided by the Constitution, he referred to the laws of the various States, and showed that 31 of the 38 provided that the executive officer of the Government should count and declare the votes for State officers, and in these 31 States this was held to be an executive act. He cited a case in Ohio where the election of Governor depended upon the vote of a disputed county. When the vote came to be counted, the Lieutenant Governor, being President of the Senate, reached down, took the votes from the hands of the tellers, counted them, and declared the result. When the circle of States is called, and the voice of the people ascertained, there is nothing left but a sum in arithmetic. The framers of the Constitution designed, in creating the Electoral College, to make a President, and made the machinery to produce the result. Congress may do many things, but it cannot engraft a judiciary system upon the word "count," or build upon it a Star Chamber. If the work of the Vice President ends with the word "count," the presence of the two houses ends. The adoption of the pending bill, he believed, would overturn the pyramid created by the Constitution and stand it upon its apex. It authorizes the commission to go down to the election returns, and vests it with authority to consider all manner of reports. It makes it the duty of the President of the Senate to receive objections to returns, and leaves it in the power of the two houses to throw out the vote of any State, no matter how regularly its vote may have been cast. Under the third section he showed that certificates might be fabricated by anybody and sent to the President of the Senate, and such fabricated certificates would form the basis of an objection which would turn that State over to an irresponsible commission. As a commission in English, and as an argument, this speech was equal to any yet delivered in this debate, and, in some respects, surpassed all others. It was impressively delivered, and was marked by originality and force. The speaker remained till 11 o'clock to listen to it with close attention, and the House unanimously extended his time and listened to the end. He spoke in a manly way, recognizing the merits in the bill; but he was particularly happy in opening, when he exposed the unworthiness of the motive which would lead Congress to act from threats of civil war. The Congress should never act under compulsion of such threats, no matter from what quarter they might arise. The threat of civil war he heartily despised. His speech ended the debate for the evening.

The President's Special Message.

The President has returned to the Senate the bill to create an inquest on the election of President, with his signature, and a message, commending the bill as a wise and constitutional means of escape from the imminent peril which threatens the institutions of the country. The President is clearly of the opinion that when there is any dispute as to the election, Congress has power to decide. Therefore, all that is necessary to take any election to Congress by appeal, is to raise a dispute—such, for example, as to have a person who was not elected, constitute himself an Electoral College, in the manner of Cronin.

The President's clear conviction that the bill is constitutional, is very gratifying and will probably satisfy the doubts of many. He also impresses his wisdom by reference to history. He observes that "In all records of history controversies have arisen as to succession or choice of chiefs of States." Therefore, he concludes that "no party or citizen, loving their country and its free institutions, can sacrifice too much of mere feeling in preserving, through the upright course of law, their country from the smallest danger to its peace on such an occasion." The composition is unquestionably his own, and the language and sentiments are equally admirable. He adds, with the same striking pertinency, that "it can not be impressed too firmly upon all people that true liberty and real progress can exist only through cheerful adherence to constitutional law." Yet we suppose that this adherence to be subject to the threats of any defeated party if their candidate shall not be counted in. In that case, or in the controversies which have arisen in all the records of history, no one can sacrifice too much of mere feeling to save their country from the smallest danger to its peace on such an occasion.

The President's message approves his patriotism, and should confound the party which recently assailed him as preferring the military way of arbitrating, and as getting ready the army and navy for that purpose. If that party were susceptible of shame, this message would shame it. And as an opinion on the constitutionality of the bill, it will rank with the speeches of Edmunds, Conkling, Bayard, and Thurman.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

A Broadway Firm—Sheriff's Officers—Crazy Patent Medicine Men—Political—The Suffrage Problem—The Election—Business—Vanderbilt—Snow.

A BROADWAY FIRM.

Stewart, Astor and Vanderbilt are gone, and now the richest representative of the old families is Peter Goeliet, an eccentric old bachelor who lives on the corner of Broadway and Nineteenth Street, in the most expensive section of the street. Goeliet's wealth is estimated at about twenty to thirty millions, the most of it having been made by his great-grandfather and grandfather in the hardware trade. It is the old story. A French emigrant commenced the hardware trade before the revolution, and by hard work made money. Every dollar made was invested in farming lands a mile or more from the store down town, and for three generations this has been the rule. What were farming lands then is covered with six story buildings now, and what the first Goeliet bought for twenty dollars an acre is worth to-day hundreds of thousands. There are two left of them, Peter, the bachelor, being the best known. He occupies several lots on the corner of Nineteenth Street and Broadway for a residence; the property being worth, probably, two hundred thousand dollars, and he keeps it that he may have room for a cow, a dozen guinea hens, a stork or two, and a fine lot of chickens. "Uncle Peter," as he is called, has a passion for this kind of farming, and he keeps this splendid property idle that he may indulge his whim. He doesn't put a dollar into pictures or books; he hasn't a single piece of sculpture; he never travels or sees anything; never takes part in any public enterprise; but the money that other men put into such things he squanders on his cow and chickens. Counting interest, it costs him twenty thousand dollars per year to keep that cow, which makes the milk come, I should suppose, at about a

part of New York. But this is let's whim, and perhaps it is as able as many other men's whim. He is over seventy, and has not a child to leave his vast estate to. His nephews and nieces are all very rich, but as they have not "Uncle Peter's" quiet tastes, they will not object to adding his millions to their own.

HOW THE CITY GOVERNMENT IS ADMINISTERED.

The actual depravity of the New York official, under what is left of Tweedism, has never been sounded. Let me tell you a true story. A store on Broadway, hardly a stone's throw from the Post-Office, was enlivened yesterday by a visit of a deputy-sheriff, with an execution for debts of the firm whose business the present owners bought, and he proposed to levy on the office furniture for a debt of the old firm; and the fact that it belonged to the new head of the house, personally, and that the new firm was not held for the old in any way, did not alter the pertinacity of the deputy. Even when these facts were made known, he insisted he should levy.

"My dear sir," said the sheriff, pleasantly, "I will tell you how this can be settled very easily. If you will just pay me my fees, I will make return no effects found, and it will be all right."

"But I won't do any such thing," retorted the indignant merchant. "Messrs. Blank & Blank don't own any furniture here, and I've no more business to pay you than the man across the street."

"You had better pay the money, and get rid of the trouble," persuasively said the deputy. "All I want is my fees, and if you can make them secure—"

"Get out of here, and go to Hell," roared the merchant; "and if you don't leave in a minute, I'll send for a policeman and have him put you out."

"My dear sir," said the deputy, coolly, "how are you going to help yourself? What is to hinder me from levying on any of this furniture I choose to take?"

"Do so," was the answer; "and I'll send after you, and have it replevined in five minutes."

"Ah! but before you could get out a replevin, I could put the things where you would never find them, and what would you do to help yourself? Perhaps you'd see Sheriff Connor?" and again came the impudent question, "How are you going to help yourself?"

This is a faithful statement of what took place in the office of one of the most respectable and respected business men in the city. There isn't anything so rotten in the world as the administration of law in this city since the courts and the officials passed under Tweed's hands. There is no responsibility anywhere, and an officer here has nearly as much range as an Arab officer. When Helmbold's store on Broadway passed into the hands of the sheriff the entire stock, valued at over \$75,000, was partly stolen outright, and the balance was eaten up in costs, the creditors only got a few thousand dollars out of the whole of it. There was a vast amount of valuable goods that never appeared on the invoice, and which the sheriff's officers could probably tell all about. It is a common thing for them to find some case of imputed irregularity, and to arrest the party and hold him till he pays, not the claim that may be against him—that is always compromised for a little or nothing—but the costs. The officers hunt up the case, make the arrest, act as go-between, make the compromise, but merely! What a long list of fees they have! They all get rich. Speaking of

HELMBOLD. This prince of medicine men is a poor lunatic in the streets, without a dollar, and subsisting on the charity of those who knew him in his prosperous days. This man was at one time worth a million—his annual income was over a quarter of a million, and he had the best horses, and the most expensive carriages, and the finest retinue of servants in the city. He lived extravagantly, got in debt, dropped out to Europe, and there his insanity developed in a series of the most extravagant freaks. His wife, a most beautiful woman, returned, and was compelled to get a divorce, and Helmbold, after being confined in several lunatic asylums, was given his liberty, and he roams the city at will, a mere wreck of what was never a very large pattern of a man. His career was a curious one. Not a dollar is left of his once great wealth, and he has become the terror of his former friends. It is curious that so many of the men who have grown rich out of patent medicines have gone insane. Ayer, the great pill man, who owns some of the most valuable real estate in this city, is insane, and yesterday an application was made for a guardian.

POLITICAL.

The electoral bill has passed the Senate, and of course it will pass the House. The Republicans of New York are opposed to it, from first to last. They consider a simple throwing away of the chances of a decent administration for four years, for the way the tribunal will be constructed, Tilden will be counted in as sure as fate. It was a most singular move. Hayes was fairly elected, the constitutional power was in the hands of the Republican party to declare him the President, but the Republican majority in the Senate threw up the sponge, and turn the Government over to the Democracy.

At the best, they put it into the hands of a tribunal, a part of which would do anything to see Tilden

rejuvinate that election of Davis, and the tribunal must now be Republican. It is the curse of the Republican party that it always has been generous enough to give away its victories, and so just that it never failed to abuse itself. Reverse the situation and what would have happened? Had Tilden a good legal claim upon 185 votes, does any one suppose that he would leave it to the uncertain chances of a tribunal? Not any. He would have held it, and demanded his inauguration. Hayes may get a fair show, but I guess we may as well prepare ourselves for four years of Democratic rule. We shall feel the better if we are disappointed.

THE SUFFERING POOR.

are likely to be allowed to suffer, for charity moves very slowly this winter. St. John's Guild, the noblest of them all, is without funds, and distributes from day to day what it receives. It has not means for one-tenth the calls that are made upon it. It gathers about one thousand dollars a day, but that is a mere nothing. The other charities are just as poorly provided for the calls that are made upon them, and the city is doing very little work. Last Sunday a thousand men were given twenty-four hours' work clearing the ice from a portion of the streets. Ten thousand could be so employed, and it would be a mercy could it be done. The suffering this year is among the honest class of people; the laborers who have been thrown out of work by the stagnation in all departments of business. I have seen clerks and salesmen, who a year ago were in receipt of good salaries, taking relief from charities because they could do nothing else. They would roll barrels on the dock, but there are no barrels to roll—they would work on the streets, but there is no work for them. It is terrible; and to add to the distress, the cold is intense. God help the poor this winter.

HUNTING FOR GOLD.

There are a great many places about New York where, according to popular belief, Capt. Kidd, the pirate, hid his ill-gotten gold, but so far no one has succeeded in finding it. The last effort is being made in Monmouth Co., New Jersey, and singular to state, a good many New Yorkers have got the craze, and have invested money in the search. There is an old legend that two hundred years ago an Indian saw four white men ascend Shark River, and bury there an immense amount of treasure. This tradition was communicated to an old settler, who did not dig for it—the Jerseymen of to-day would not have let it slumber so long—and the story has been handed down from father to son. Some time since a company was organized to search for the treasure, and last week operations were begun. The belief is that Kidd's treasure is in "Money Hill," as the place is called, and the company will never stop till they have gone through the entire locality, and they have abundant capital to do it. There are three hundred men at work, but up to date nothing has been found. Their faith is so well grounded that the men at work were offered a very good sum per day for their services in lieu of the share in the spoil originally promised them, and every one of them declined. The work is being done by a regularly organized company. The race of tools is not entirely extinct.

BUSINESS.

is still as dull as it can be, with no prospect of improvement.

VANDERBILT.

Vanderbilt's son Cornelius and his sisters are preparing to make a move on the old millionaire's will. They are not satisfied with the half million each left them, but they want a slice of the hundred millions he left. I should be satisfied with what the least of them got. Cornelius, who is moving, was left an income of two thousand dollars a month, but it isn't enough for him. He wants one-tenth of the estate or nothing.

THE SNOW.

stopped falling a week ago, but we are suffering from its effects yet. There has been but little freight over the roads for weeks, and a great deal of inconvenience has resulted. Merchants are unable to ship and produce from the interior is lying along all the roads, waiting for clear tracks. The snow fall on the coast has been the largest for fifty years, and as it has been general, New York suffers from it terribly. The roads are now well high cleared, and freight is pouring in in immense volumes. Ten thousand men, two days, would have kept the Central track clear, but Vanderbilt would not do it. He is a chip of the old block.

PIETRO.

New York, Jan. 30th, 1877.

The representative Republicans of Cleveland, put their opinions on record on the electoral contrivance, in a very clear and concise way, at a public meeting on the 23d, in the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and then telegraphed to our Senators and Representatives in Congress. Although it may not have had the effect to retard the passage of the hasty and ill-advised measure, it is a bit of record, we apprehend, that time and experience may make its friends doubly proud of, and as a necessary consequence those who disregarded the instruction of the resolution, and pushed the bill through, to deeply regret the part taken by them in it.

Resolved, That the scheme for counting the electoral vote, as reported by the joint committee of Congress, appears to us plainly without authority under the Constitution, and in violation of the sacred

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Gold on Monday last touched the lowest figure yet, the market closing at 54 1/2. Purchases were made at 54 1/2, and closing rates of buying with bankers, was 53 1/2.

Judge Davis having accepted the position of U. S. Senator, it is concluded that he will not, therefore, consent to take a place upon the compromise committee for counting the electoral vote.

The Senate of the State of New York has the temerity to declare under the very nose of Samuel, that Hayes and Wheeler are duly elected President and Vice President, and ought to be inaugurated.

State sovereignty is a good enough doctrine for bringing out Democratic valor, except where it has been convenient to disregard it, as has been the case in the game for counting the electoral vote.

The Ohio Senate will hear the case presented by the Attorneys in the Cox-Harmon contest every afternoon henceforth until it is convinced in regard to its authority to go behind the returns in Hamilton county. The men of slender majorities are anxious.

A gang of forty-eight tramps made a desperate attempt to capture a freight train standing on the track at Wooster, on Wednesday night last, about midnight. Knives and pistols were used in the fight with the authorities that ensued. Five of the gang were arrested. They were driven away.

Friday of last week was the day set for the execution of the Mormon Bishop Lee for his participation in the Mountain Meadows massacre, but the Supreme Court of Utah has granted a stay in the proceedings, and the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court, unless the Territorial Court grants him a new trial.

Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, member of Congress from Georgia, and late Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, is reported at the point of death. Disease has wasted him to a mere skeleton, and for more than a year he has been hovering between life and death. He has been in Washington since the opening of the session.

The Custom House officers in New York have uncovered a large-sized conspiracy in the importing business, involving merchants in nearly all the leading cities, including Cincinnati. The names of the "crooked" firms are not yet given, but it is understood that the suits which have been begun will disclose a gigantic scheme of fraud upon the revenue.

One interesting complication will occur to those who have given the electoral bill careful attention. Suppose its constitutionality should be tested before the Supreme Court, as is not at all improbable, five out of the nine Justices must sit in judgment on themselves as arbitrators. Is it not just possible that the last complication would be worse than the first?

It was predicted that Moody and Sankey would have something of a time in getting through the crust of Bostonian cynicism and philosophical refinement, before getting down to their mission work. But their reception, as given by telegraph, seems to show that the process of thawing out and unbending, once not impeded to an entry at once into their labors, and that thousands were turned away from their meetings who could not gain admission.

Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, interrupted Gen. Garfield on Friday night last, while speaking on the compromise, with the question, "would it not be safer to entrust the power of counting the votes to the Senate, than to one man, its President?" Gen. Garfield replied, as quick as a flash, "No, sir; you are then an irresponsible body, which you can neither hold to account nor punish, while the officer can be removed at any moment and punished for any wrong he may do, or any duty he may neglect."

Here is one of the gems which the lightning carried on the 1st of December from the Oregon capital to Granary Park, Tilden's residence. The English language is evidently susceptible of great improvements, notwithstanding its copiousness and range. The popular notion that its elegance and force had reached approximate completeness, will here meet with revision. Until Tilden's ingenuity is exhausted, such fallacious ideas must stand in abeyance.

Portland, Oregon, Dec. 1, 1876.—Hon. S. J. Tilden, 15 Granary Park, New York: Fred, scintans, crump, emerge, peroration, hot-house, bonfire of piastres, delish, hot-house, exultance of services, highest cunning, delish of a galvanic survivor by accordingly, respectful, merciless of Senator, in consequent coalesce.

"Highest cunning" is good.

The House of Assembly, Columbus, on the 18th ult., passed the compulsory education bill. It provides that every person having charge of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall send such child to school at least twelve weeks in each year; six weeks to be consecutive unless the child shall be refused by the authorities on account of sickness or because it is educated in some other way for an equal length of time; also, that no child shall be employed in public works unless it has had the required amount of schooling the previous year; also, that books shall be furnished gratis to such as are unable to furnish them for themselves. Two weeks at a night-school is to be considered the same as one week at day-school. The vote stood 37 for and 27 against.

The respective caucuses have now nominated the members of the inquest on the part of the two branches of Congress: Senate—Edmunds, Morton and Frelinghuysen, Republicans; and Thurman and Bayard, Democrats. House—Payne, Hunt and Abbott, Democrats; Garfield and Hoar, Republicans. Edmunds and Morton will rank with Thurman and Bayard in ability; no one supposes that any of the Democratic members will consider anything less which does not count in Tilden. Upon the announcement that Garfield and Hoar were nominated, the democratic papers declared that there was one Republican member assured who would vote to go behind the returns. They meant Hoar, of course, but we suppose his wish was father to the thought.

The gentleman named above in the caucuses, were duly elected, and constitute, as far as the two houses of Congress are concerned, the commission for counting the votes for President, and settling the terms of this Republican surrender. Garfield's independent and outspoken opposition to the scheme very naturally brought down upon him the hostility of some 30 Democrats, who refused to vote for him, and some of the party made use of their wit in an effort to insult him, while voting. The argument he made against the bill was certainly not surpassed, if indeed, equaled, by any other made. He received the unanimous vote of his Republican friends, and his constituents will feel a sense of pride over the soundness of his views uttered, and his manly bearing in the course taken by him to defeat the bill.

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"Highest cunning" is good.

The House of Assembly, Columbus, on the 18th ult., passed the compulsory education bill. It provides that every person having charge of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall send such child to school at least twelve weeks in each year; six weeks to be consecutive unless the child shall be refused by the authorities on account of sickness or because it is educated in some other way for an equal length of time; also, that no child shall be employed in public works unless it has had the required amount of schooling the previous year; also, that books shall be furnished gratis to such as are unable to furnish them for themselves. Two weeks at a night-school is to be considered the same as one week at day-school. The vote stood 37 for and 27 against.

The respective caucuses have now nominated the members of the inquest on the part of the two branches of Congress: Senate—Edmunds, Morton and Frelinghuysen, Republicans; and Thurman and Bayard, Democrats. House—Payne, Hunt and Abbott, Democrats; Garfield and Hoar, Republicans. Edmunds and Morton will rank with Thurman and Bayard in ability; no one supposes that any of the Democratic members will consider anything less which does not count in Tilden. Upon the announcement that Garfield and Hoar were nominated, the democratic papers declared that there was one Republican member assured who would vote to go behind the returns. They meant Hoar, of course, but we suppose his wish was father to the thought.

The gentleman named above in the caucuses, were duly elected, and constitute, as far as the two houses of Congress are concerned, the commission for counting the votes for President, and settling the terms of this Republican surrender. Garfield's independent and outspoken opposition to the scheme very naturally brought down upon him the hostility of some 30 Democrats, who refused to vote for him, and some of the party made use of their wit in an effort to insult him, while voting. The argument he made against the bill was certainly not surpassed, if indeed, equaled, by any other made. He received the unanimous vote of his Republican friends, and his constituents will feel a sense of pride over the soundness of his views uttered, and his manly bearing in the course taken by him to defeat the bill.

THE ERIE STORE

ASHTABULA, OHIO.

Friday Morning, Feb. 2nd, 1877.

FLANNEL UNDERWEAR

What has Been Said and Done at the Coroner's Inquest.

Friday Jan. 26.

At the inquest to-day, Dr. C. Case was the first witness summoned. He went to the wreck immediately on hearing of the accident, and he carried the entire night in caring for the wounded. He did not see any one who was burned when he reached the wreck. This was about 8:30 o'clock. One of the passengers told him there were between two and three hundred persons on the train.

James Doran was also sworn. He is employed as track master by the Lake Shore road at Ashtabula, and was so employed when the bridge was built across Ashtabula creek. He says that a double track was laid across the bridge at or about the time it was built, but that one of them was used for ordinary travel, until the whole road was double tracked, which was about four or five years ago. He has never found the rails on the bridge much out of line. He examined the track east of the bridge the morning after the accident and found no evidence of the train having left the track. He could have discovered it easily if it had done so. He has never known a car to run off the track on the bridge. There are guard rails the whole length of the bridge.

James K. Stebbins was next sworn: He is jeweler at Ashtabula, and was at the bridge about forty minutes after hearing the alarm. When he first saw the wreck the frames of cars were standing; he helped some of the wounded up the hill and then went to the cars; he heard cries for help from different parts of the wreck at the time, and wondered why water was not being thrown; he got some buckets and men to use them, and then went in search of the steamer and found it lying idle, and asked why they were not throwing water. He told them that people were burning alive and could only be saved by water. They told him that they could not act without orders from their Chief. He said: "Where is he?" "We'll have water down there, or we'll hang him." He was answered that they did not know where he was. Being exhausted and discouraged he left the wreck and went to care for the wounded.

Tuesday Jan. 30.

Mr. Job, Abbott, a civil engineer, of Canton, was examined, and testified that he is Vice President of the Canton Bridge Company, and has known of several bridges being built in wrong and cast iron on the Howe truss plan. He has examined the wrecked bridge. In his calculations, he assumed the dead load of the bridge to be 2,570 pounds per lineal foot. He made the tension members had ample section, and, in fact, were considerably heavier than necessary for safety, and that the compression members were deficient in section. Considering the position in which the train and bridge fell, and from his investigations, his theory of the disaster is that the bridge commenced to give away by the buckling of the "I" beams forming the main brace of the second or third panel from the west end in the south truss. He is of the opinion that the bridge had become gradually weakened by use, the form of construction being such that many of the compression members were strained over their safe working capacity. He thinks that an iron bridge should not deteriorate by use, provided it be not strained above a safe working capacity. He thinks that the development of the locomotive might have caused the destruction of the bridge, but does not think that such a thing would have occurred. Copies of the testimony of Messrs. Amasa Stone and the late Charles Collins were introduced and will be used as evidence.